

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ **CHRISTMAS EVE** December 24, 2023 · 4:00 PM

Christmas Music Beginning at 3:30 PM

PRELUDE Lo, How a Rose Emmanuel Adler
Noel Vosgien Jean Bouvard

ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT

Celebrant The glory of the Lord has been revealed:

People **O, come, let us adore Him**

Celebrant Almighty God, who has revealed the glory of Divine love in the face of Jesus Christ, and called us by Him to live as God's own children: Fill our hearts, as we remember His Nativity, with the gladness of this great redemption, that we may join in the heavenly song of glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, and goodwill to all nations; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant Good News and great joy to all the world:

People **Now our Savior is born, Christ the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us go unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass.

People **In the Name of Christ. Amen.**

FESTAL CHORAL EUCHARIST

PROCESSIONAL HYMN O Come, All Ye Faithful Hymnal - 83 *Adeste fidelis*

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 *4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
 *5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
 5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
 dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

ACCLAMATION OF THE NATIVITY

Celebrant Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
People **who comes to us, to set us free.**
Celebrant A child is born to us!
People **A Son is given to us!**
Celebrant By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high breaks upon us,
People **giving light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
 to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING SENTENCES

Celebrant
 Bless-ed be God: Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spi-rit.
People
 And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev-er. A-men.

The Celebrant chants the collect for purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
 perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

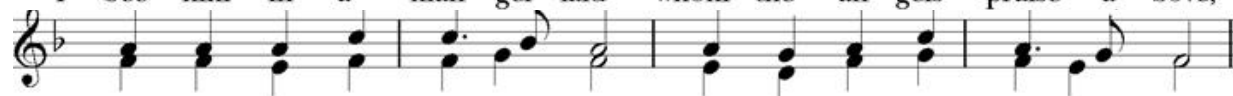
People Amen.

NATIVITY PAGEANT TABLEAU *coordinated by Meg Silver, Christa Buckler, Richard Konzen*

GLORIA Angels We Have Heard on High Hymnal - 96 *Gloria*



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;



and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
 What great bright-ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you**

The Celebrant continues

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

Reader A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF CELEBRATION *Away in a Manger (vs. 1-2)*

Hymnal - 101

The people stand as they are able.

1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.

THE SECOND LESSON

Micah 5:2-5a

Reader A reading from the prophet Micah.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF CELEBRATION O Little Town of Bethlehem (vs. 1,3)

Hymnal - 79

The people stand as they are able.

The musical score is written on four staves of music. Each staff has two vocal parts: a soprano part (indicated by a '1') and an alto part (indicated by a '3'). The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a common time signature. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.

THE THIRD LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Reader A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF CELEBRATION Joy to the World

Hymnal - 100

The people stand as they are able.

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2: 1-20

The people stand as they are able.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Celebrant continues

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a

manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Peter Faass

THE NICENE CREED

The people stand as they are able.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people greet one another in the name of Christ.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY *Please place offering in appropriate Christmas envelope in the pew.*

Officiant Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Shepherd’s Pipe Carol

John Rutter

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please indicate to the Priest if you would prefer the gluten free wafers.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B SURSUM CORDA

Book of Common Prayer 367

Hymnal S - 120

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

Hymnal S - 125

Richard Proulx

The people stand or kneel.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have

made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

THE INVITATION

The Celebrant invites the congregation forward to receive Holy Communion with these or similar words
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE COMMUNION MOTET Sans Day Carol

John Rutter

COMMUNION HYMN What Child Is This?

Hymnal - 115

The congregation may remain seated

Unison or harmony

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,
Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for
peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -
an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.
Refrain
This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds
guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to
bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

THE PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of Thy Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer You praise and thanksgiving. I present to You my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to You. And since I can not now receive You sacramentally, I beseech You to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to You, and embrace You with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate You from me. May I live and die in Your love. **Amen.**

Spend a few moments in meditation upon the fact that God so loved you that He sent His Only-Begotten Son into the world for you.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Book of Common Prayer 366

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE KNEELING CAROL Silent Night, Holy Night

Hymnal III

Stille Nacht

Torchbearers will light candles of those on end of pews. The people kneel as they are able.

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,
all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,
Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy
peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

Candles are extinguished.

CLOSING HYMN Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hymnal - 87

Mendelssohn

The people stand as they are able.



1 Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a-dored; Christ, the ev-er-last-ing Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glo-ry by, born that we no more may die,
Peace on earth and mer-cy mild, God and sin-ners rec-on-ciled!
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the Vir-gin's womb.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec-ond birth.
Joy-ful, all ye na-tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate De-i-ty.
Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,
with the an-gel-ic host pro-claim Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el!
hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Refrain
Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Toccata (Symphonie V, Op. 42)

Charles-Marie Widor

Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival Our 61st Annual Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival will be Sunday, January 7th, 2024 at 1:30 and 4:00pm. Tickets are \$15 and are still available on our website, in person, or by mail.

CHRISTMAS · SEASON · SERVICES

New Year's Eve Service: December 31st Morning Prayer 10:00am

Boar's Head Service: January 7th at Morning Prayer 10:00am
Baptism of the Lord

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF

J. Douglas Faires
by Barbara Faires

Gary Kirkland, Helen Kirkland, Ray Kirkland, Germaine DeMarks
by Allen DeMarks

Neil & Margaret Franklin, Neil Bruce Franklin,
Glenn David Franklin & Thomas G. New
by Diane L. New, Gaynell Harris, John G. New, and Amy Turner

Bill Elliott, Keith Elliott, May Howard, Mary Sossong
by Ginger Elliott

Beverly Futkos, David Futkos, & Paul Futkos
by Karen Eberth

Daniel N. Slagle Jr., Marilouise & William K. Bonte Jr.
by Marilou, Dewey, & Tom Slagle

Blair Lewis, Dennis B. Lewis Sr., & Barbara Lewis Roberts
by Carolyn & Marie Lewis

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS GIVEN IN THANKSGIVING

by Donna Wynn

**AUMBRY CANDLE GIVEN IN HONOR
AND GLORY OF GOD**

Marion G. Robertson & Earl J. Robertson
by Ronald H. Robertson

S · A · I · N · T
JOHN'S
Episcopal Church · Youngstown

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL PARISHIONERS WHO SERVE EACH WEEK AS
MUSICIANS, READERS, ALTAR GUILD, AND VIDEOGRAPHER.

Many thanks to contributions made in honor of loved
ones for flowers and aumbrey candle each week.

The Material in the bulletin is taken from
The Book of Common Prayer

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GUEST PRIEST
The Rev. Peter Faass